IN THE CLAIMS

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method of making a poly(arylene ether) composition comprising

melt blending a poly(arylene ether) with polysalicylate and a component selected from the group consisting of impact modifier, reinforcing filler, flame retardant and combinations of two or more of the foregoing

wherein the poly(arylene ether) is melt reacted with the polysalicylate to form a poly(arylene ether) having aromatic ester groups during the formation of the composition and the poly(arylene ether) having aromatic ester end groups is present in an amount greater than 15 weight percent based on the total weight of the composition, the poly(arylene ether) composition is a thermoplastic composition, and further wherein the impact modifier comprises a diblock copolymer, a triblock copolymer, or a combination thereof, and

wherein the amount of polysalicylate is 2.5 to 4 weight percent based on the sum of the components except the polysalicylate and the poly(arylene ether) having aromatic ester end groups has less than or equal to 20 mol% uncapped hydroxyl end groups, based on the total number of moles of endgroups.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein the polysalicylate is added downstream of the poly(arylene ether).

19-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein the poly(arylene ether) has an intrinsic viscosity of 0.10 to about 0.60 deciliters per gram as measured in chloroform at 25°C.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein the impact modifier is styrene-(ethylene-butylene)-styrene.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein the impact modifier is at least partially hydrogenated.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein the impact modifier is an unsaturated block copolymer and the composition further comprises anti-oxidant.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein the component is hydrogenated impact modifier and the composition further comprises an alkenyl aromatic polymer.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the reinforcing filler is glass fiber.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein the impact modifier is present in an amount of about 4 to about 15 weight percent, based on the entire weight of the composition.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 further comprising an alkenyl aromatic polymer wherein the alkenyl aromatic polymer is present in an amount of about 1 to about 80 weight percent, based on the total weight of the composition.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, further comprising a rubber-modified poly(alkenyl aromatic) resin wherein the rubber-modified poly(alkenyl aromatic) resin is present in an amount of about 1 to about 80 weight percent, based on the total weight of the composition.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the flame retardant is present in an amount of about 2 to about 40 weight percent, based on the total weight of the composition.

32. (Previously Presented) A method of making a poly(arylene ether) composition comprising

melt blending 50 to 95 weight percent based on the total weight of the composition a poly(arylene ether) with

polysalicylate and

a component selected from the group consisting of impact modifier, reinforcing filler, flame retardant and combinations of two or more of the foregoing

wherein the poly(arylene ether) is melt reacted with the polysalicylate to form a poly(arylene ether) having aromatic ester groups during the formation of the composition and the poly(arylene ether) composition is a thermoplastic composition, and further wherein the impact modifier comprises a diblock copolymer, a triblock copolymer, or a combination thereof, and

wherein the amount of polysalicylate is 2.5 to 4 weight percent based on the sum of the components except the polysalicylate and the poly(arylene ether) having aromatic ester end groups has less than or equal to 20 mol% uncapped hydroxyl end groups, based on the total number of moles of endgroups.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the poly(arylene ether) is present in an amount of 50 to 80 weight percent based on the total weight of the composition.

34-39. (Cancelled)